

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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John J. Tharp, Jr.'s Nomination as Judge of the Northern District of Illinois Confirmed

CHICAGO – On Monday, May 14, 2012, the U.S. Senate confirmed the nomination of John J. Tharp as a U.S. district judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Judge-Designate Tharp received his Artium Baccalaureus Degree from Duke University in 1982 and his Juris Doctorate from the Northwestern University School of Law in 1990, graduating with honors from both institutions. While at the Northwestern University School of Law, Tharp also served as the Book Review Editor of the *Northwestern University Law Review*. After graduating from law school, Tharp served as a law clerk to Judge Joel M. Flaum of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit from 1990-1991. He then worked as an associate at Kirkland & Ellis LLP from 1991-1992, before serving as an assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois, Criminal Division, from 1992-1997. Tharp is currently a partner at Mayer Brown LLP, where he has practiced since 1997, and he is a Co-Chair of the Securities Litigation and Enforcement Practice. Tharp's practice area focuses on class action and other complex federal litigation, government investigations, and corporate internal investigations. Between 1982 and 1987, Tharp served as a commissioned officer with the United States Marine Corps. He held the rank of Captain at the completion of his service with the Marines.

Judge-Designate Tharp was previously nominated to fill a judicial vacancy in the Northern District of Illinois in 2008, but the Senate did not act on the nomination before the change in administration. On Monday, Chief Judge James F. Holderman said, "After a long wait, we enthusiastically look forward to welcoming John to the Northern District of Illinois bench." Judge-Designate Tharp will fill a position that became vacant in February 2010 when District Judge Blanche M. Manning assumed senior status. With the swearing-in of Judge-Designate Tharp and Judge-Designate John Z. Lee, which is anticipated to take place in a few weeks, the number of district judge vacancies on the Northern District of Illinois bench will be cut to three.